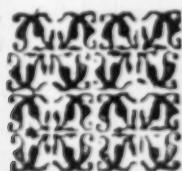


Dainty Conceits, with a
number of rare and witty
inventions, neuer
before printed.

Made and inuented for honest
recreation, to passe away
idle houres.

Laboris condimentum otium.

By THOMAS IOHNSON,



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THERE BE FIVE
THINGS TO BE LOO-
KED VNTO OF HIM
that taketh a Farme, or placeth
himselfe in the Country.

First, that it be a fertile soyle.
Secondly, an whole some ayre.
Thirdly, that there be water
at will, and that swete and
good. fourthly, that he have good
neighbours. And lastly, that the way there
unto be easie, saire, and commodious,

To make Walls or Floores, that neither
Snaile, Weasse, Cat, Mousc, or Weevil,
will come neere, to destroy either Corne,
or other thing.

Make your spalls or flares of what mat-
ter or substance you thinke meete, and
let

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Let them be well dyed, then take clay, and in the tempering thereof put in the some of dregs of Dyle that stecteth on the top of Dyle and mingle them well together, then take wilde Blue trees leaues & put there among herewith plaster your foresaid walls and flayes quite ouer and let it drye; then take the said some of Dyle, and rub it ouer the walls and out of doubt no vermin will approach it.

To take away the good taste or sauour of Oyle.

Hang Dyle in a chimney where smoake and soot are, and it spoileth the taste of Oyle, for it will not come nere any heat but his owne naturall heat that it hath in it self.

How to order Oxen when they are newly vnyoaked coming from labour.

Of all beasts Oxen are most subiect to hidebinding, and therefore as soone as they be come from their labour and be vnyoaked, you ought to rub their necks where the yoke touched, with your hand, and to presse downe the hump of their backs, and then to pull it as if you pulled it from the ribbes, for that is a helpe that they shall not be hidebound.

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To glaze pots within.

TAke your vessell which must be well barned, then take red lead as much as you will, and put thereto a tenth part of water, and of Tartar nine parts, then mixe them together, and glaze your pots as the manner is, for this is excellent.

How to know all manner of sores.

IF thou see an Impostume or other soze in what place of the body soener it be;

First, take heed to the colour thereof, and if it be red and nesh in feeling, then it is ingendred of euill blood, and if it be hot and moist withall, the signes whereof it partaketh be Gemini, Libra, and Aquary, the Planet Jupiter and Mercury, when the Moone or the Planet be in these signes, or in any of them, be no medicines to such a soze. If it be red and therewith hard, it is ingendred of heat, and is hot and dry, the signes be Aries, Leo, and Sagittarius, the Planets, Sol, & Mars, while the Moone is in these, be no medicine to the griened place.

If it be white, gray or blackish affume, saith Hyppocrates, that it proceede of cold and drynesse, if it be hard and the signes there,

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unto belonging to Taurus, Virgo and Capricorne and Saturne, who is cold and dry is the Planet. Whilst the Stone is abiding in one of these signes, v'e no medicine to such a disease; but if the stone haue these last names colours, or any of them, and therewithall be not hard in feeling but neish, say that it cometh of a cold moisture, as ingendred of steame, the signes agrating thereunto be Cancer, Scorpio, and Pisces, the Planets thereof answering, be Venus and the Stone. Thus easily may any one know whereof any swelling or stone doth come, as Hypocritas saith.

To make Gun-powder.

Take what quantity of salt-peter you will, and halfe so much quantity of quick brimstone, small coales made of fallow or willow, halfe so much as of brimstone, and if you thinke it conuenient, you may put thereto a litle quicke silver, then huing them all to powder, and sarce them, and put these in some hote place.

Fine deuices at Cardes.

How to draw out the whole decke of Cards, and to tell what euery Card is before you drawe it out.

Take

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Take the whole decks of Cards and hold them close together, and nere unto your eye, and ouer against you hang a looking glasse, and by it you shall see euery carde, to the amazement of the beholders.

Or thus.

Take a peece of a looking-glasse in your left hand, to see to the beholders, and so you shall performe the same:

Also if you thinke these two waies to open so plaine, take the cuppe, and put a little drinke in your mouth, keeping doorne with your head, let a little quantity fall vpon the table to the breadth of a Shilling, then hold your cards as before is said, close to your eye vnder the moisture, and the cards will shew how in such sort, that you may know euery card before you drawe it, and it is so hard to be descryed, that in seuen yeres you may scantlie be perceiued.

Againe if you deliuer to your fellow one Card whatsoever it be at a venture, and take two next following your selfe, see how many those two are about ten, and so many you may affirme that you are more then he, and more then will make him ten, as to make it plaine with an example.

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I put the case that I deliver to my friend standing by, the five of Clubs, and I take the two next Cards, which are the Queens of Hearts, and the four of Diamonds, I say therefore unto my friend, or lay a wager with him, that I haue as many as he, as many as will make him ten, and foure pippes to spare, and so is there.

In like manner I deliver to a Kender by two Cards, and take my selfe double the number, to wit foure: I may say in like sort, that I haue as many as he, and as many as will make him twenty, and so many to spare as I haue pippes in my hand aboue twenty.

So likewise delivering three Cards and taking five to your selfe, you may say that you haue as many as he, and as many as will make him thirty, and the odde pippes to spare: and thus you may doe it to many Cards, in doubling the Cards, and respecting ten for every Card.

If your familiar friends be in company, you may take three knaues, and lay them with their faces downewards, but let two of them lye together, and the third by himselfe: then say to one with whom you may be bold: Whether had you rather if occasion serued, to make the two Cards which lye together three,

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or to take part with this one, and make him
time then will he take the one of the others
part, if he take the two, then say to him, here
I pray you make them three knaves.

Also if you take the foure knaves, and lay
them all together in such sort on the top of both
tomes, that the standers by perceiue you not,
and take three of them, and shew them to the
beholders saying, see you these three knaves?
who will answer, yea: then prick away one
of those three that you shewed, and lay the
other two in the place wherefrom you took
them, and giue the Cards one cut of five:
you may then wager with them, that although
you cut away one of the knaves that yet three
are together still, which they will deny at the
first, hauing not regarded what knave it was
you did prick.

Also if you lay all the roate Cards toge-
ther, and when you haue so done, cause your
companion to cut them foure, or five or six
times: you may affirme that by his so often
cutting of them, all the roate Cards are to-
gether, so being once together, the cutting
seldome parteth, which if you perceiue by the
bottom Card, cause him to giue them one
cut more, so shall you haue them all together.

Flow

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How to know if one Carde be missing
what Carde it is.

TAke the Cards and face them, and ever as you tell the pip, and alwayes at every ten cast it out of your minde, and count to ten till you come to the end, then make what number is remaining at the end, and see what it wanteth of ten and that is the Card, and if ten be remaining, you may affirme that ten is missing. And by this way may you bid your friend or acquaintance, to take out of the decks any Card what he will, and you will tell him what it is presently: As for example, a friend takes the Ace of the Hearts, and I looke or runne over the Cards, and passe all the tenne Cards, and the rest I tell casting away ten ever as I tell, and in the end I finde but nine remaining in tale, therefore because nine wanteth but one of ten, I know that it is an Ace, and I run over the Cards againe quickly to see which of the Aces it is, and then I affirme to my friend that it is the Ace of hearts.

To know what Carde one thinketh.

Bid your friend think what Carde he will, and then take the packe, and lay the Cards

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Cards, Carde by Carde into thre heape with the faces upward, and when you haue done, demand in which heape his Carde is, and that heape lay nethermost, and in this sort doe thre times, and at the last time the Card which your friend thinketh will be the vppermost of that heape: mar. y if you cast them the fourth time al'o, remembering the Card at the third time, it will not so easily be perceived.

Another.

Suffle the Cards, and shew vnto your friend the bottome Card, bidding him marke the Card that he know it well: then put the Cards behind your backe, and turne that bottome backeward, that is to say, the backe of that Card to the backe of the decke, then shew him the next bottome Card, and demand if that be his Card, then he will answer no: and in shewing that Card, the other Card is in your sight, whereby you may know the Card as well as he.

Another.

Marke you the bottome Card priuily, and then opening the Cards, bid one draw what Card him liketh, and when he hath drawne the Card and seene it, lay that Card close

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close to your knowne Card, and then give him the Cards to cut or shuffle, whether he will, and say that you can tell him his Card, or in drawing know when it cometh out, which easily you may doe, for that it will come either the next befoze or the next after the marked Card.

How to smell out the foure Aces, or foure knaues being blindfolded.

Rubbe the edges of them with a little beaten pepper, and you may easily smell them from the rest.

How to know whether one take vp a King Card, or a Queene, being absent in another roome.

This tricke requireth the helpe of another, who must be in that roome, and when the Card is taken vp, he must first speake, and aske his fellow what it is, and if he see that the king is taken vp, then must he aske his fellow short, saying what ist? but if the Queene be taken vp, he must aske his fellow saying, what is it? And so by the demand may he that is in another roome tell wthout, whether of them a stander by doth take vp, to the wonder of the beholders.

How

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How to keepe Wine from fowring.

Vhen you feare that your wine will be soltze, by reason of thundring or lightning, haue alwayes Like seeds in stozs for the same purpose, then pound some of them in a mortar, and put into your vessels of wine, and it will pferue it from being soltze.

How to keepe Ale or Beere in Summer from fowring.

Take a handfull of two (according as the quantity of your vessell is in bignesse) of the hearbe called Wytwort, and being well washed, and after well drained from the water, put it into your vessels of Beere and Ale, and it will not soltze, a matter of small cost and greatest profit.

To make Oyle de Bay.

Take greene Bay leaues, and stampe them with oyle, and cleane swines greace, and being well stamped together put it into an earthen pot, and so let it stand to rot for the space of forty dayes at the least, and stop it very close, then at the forty daye end, set it on the fire, and boyle it with a soft fire, and put thereto the iuyce of parsley, then straine it and keepe it very close.

How

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How to make Ginger bread.

Take two pound of scummed hony, twelve pound of flower, put thereto ginger beaten in powder, pepper, cloves, and mace, in powder, and make into what fashion you will, and bake it as you would bee bread.

How to close or ioine together a sword,
dagger, or knife, being broken
a sinder.

Take an Adamant Stone and burne it in the fire till it be red without, then shate off that red into a dish. take also two gads of Steele broken into four peeces, vineger a scruple, verdegreece an ounce, then put your Steele, vineger, and verdegreece into a stillitory of glasse, and let them still to water, and then mingle the powder of your burnt Adamant with the water and so put it into a violl, and keepe it for your use.

~~Take~~

Or else thus.

Take Cinne and melt it, and then put thereto as much Mercury, and mingle them well together so that you may make powder of them both, then take the powder of the Adamant, as much as of either of them,
and

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and mingle all these together, then take salt
and Romane Vitrioll, and fill a water of
them, and keepe it in a glasse well stopped.

Now you corrosiue water being made, take
your blade that is broken, and lay it vpon a
plaine boord, being sure, that both the broken
pieces lye as enen together as may be, then
lay a thred euen about the same, and then
put ware about the thred, and when thou hast
done, draw away the thred, and lay of your
powder in the place where your thred lay, and
put a little of your corrosiue water vpon your
powder, Factum est.

A water to gild vpon Steele or iron.

Take an ounce of Argoll, two ounces of
salt, an ounce of Aloome, a quarter of an
ounce of verdegreace, and grinde them well
together, then put thereto a pinte of vineger,
and so let it stand a little season, and with
that water maist thou gild on what metall
thou wilt.

To make any gilt thing as hie coloured as
the Angeli Noble.

Take Sal armoniacke, and Verdegreace,
made in sottle powder, and put in pipe, or
in

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in vineger till it be thicke like pappe, then lay thereof vpon thy ring, or other thing whate soeuer that gilt is, and lay it ouer a very small fire till it smoke, and then put it in some close thing, and couer it till it be cold, & expertum est.

How to gild with small cost.

TAke a quart of red wine, and sethe it with hyazell to a pinte, then take gold-foile the price of foure pence and put thereto, then heat thy silver red hot, and quench it therein, and it shall finely gild.

How to couch gold vpon a cloth.

TAke Bole-armenacke and Clofe, and so grinde them together, and lay it ouer thy cloth somewhat warme, and ere it be dry, couch thereon thy gold, & so let it dry thoroughly, and then maist thou begin to burnish it.

Another manner of way.

TAke water and chalke and grinde them well together, then straine it throught a cloth, and then put it into a horne, and doe thereto some yeare of egges, and then stirre it well together, & set it in some moist place, and the longer it standeth, the better it is, expertum est.

How

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How to graft a vine vpon a vine.

TAke and cleane the stocke of a vine, as you doe other trees, and put the graft in the cleft, and stop it well with waxe and binde it fast.

How to helpe a tree that is long before it beare fruit.

TAke an auger or wimble, and bore a hole so deepe as the path of the tree at the least, then take a pinne made of some dry hard timber, but see that you make it somewhat greater then the hole at the one end, and then take a hatchet or hammer, or any such like thing, and see you drive in the pinne so forceably, that you cleane the stocke a little, then take some waxe, and stoppe the cleft close, and rest assured it will beare fruit the yeere following.

How to haue Peaches sooner by two moneths then other.

Graft your Peach on a Bulbery, or on a Vine.

B

Haw

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How to haue Plums all the Summer vnto
Alhallontide.

Graft one in another in the Sapbery tree,
and in the Pulbery tree.

How to make Medlers and Cherries to abide
vntill the new come.

Graft in a Pulbery tree as is aforesaid,
and wet your grafts in hony, and put
thereto powder of cloues.

How to keepe a Rose fresh a moneth
and more.

Ye may vse it every day, and in the night
put it into hony, and it will continue long,
as hath bene often proued.

To haue fruit without blossomes.

Graft vpon a figge tree, and the fruit
that cometh thersoon will come with
out blossome.

To

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To haue fruit that will indure two yeere.

Graft on a Warden, or vpon a Quince tree.

To haue fruit without chore.

Take a graft, and set it into the stocke at both the ends, so that the graft may grow like an halfe hope.

To haue Cherries at Alhallontide.

Graft Cherry-tree grafts vpon a Mulberry tree, or vpon a sage stocke. and the cherries that come thereon, will indure untill the time aforesaid.

To haue Medlers sooner by two moneths, and also greater than others.

Take your grafts and then wet them in honey, and then graft them either vpon a Mulberry tree, or on a thorne.

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To haue ripe Peares very soone.

Graft your Peares vpon a Hawthorne,
and you shall haue early Peares.

To haue Peares very late.

Graft vpon a Warden tree.

To haue Wardens betimes.

Graft vpon a Mulbery, or vpon the
Quince tree.

To haue Mulberies very soone.

Graft vpon the thorne.

To haue them late.

Graft them vpon the Hedder tree.

To haue a halfe Pearre, and a halfe Apple
to grow together.

Take two grafts, the one of the Apple tree,
and another of a Pearre tree, and cleane
them in such sort, that you may finely ioyne
the

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the one halfe of the Apple to the other halfe of the peare, but it must be done so closeley, that no water enter into them, and the fruit that cometh of them, will be of tallage both of the apple and the peare.

The principall thing for grafting of any thing, is euer thre or foure dayes before the change of the Moone. And for planting, the day of the change, and the two next dayes following are best for any thing.

How to make letters of gold.

Take gumme of Almonds and grind it to powder, then temper it with Terebintion as finely ground: let your gumme be dissolved in the white of an egge, and mingle them all together, and temper them in such sort, that you may write therewith, and when you thinke it convenient, Use thereof with your pen, and the letters that you make, will seme to be of gold. Probaturum est.

How to make a Serpent lie from
a man.

Let him approach nere to a Serpent naked, and he will fly from him. whereas being clothed, he will leape vpon him, and

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The falling spittle of a man killeth him :
wherefoze when a Serpent is in danger, he
waggeth himselfe to saue his head wherein
lyeth his heart.

The nature of the Rauen.

The property of the Rauen is to haue such
a delight in her owne beauty, that she
housafeth not to giue her young ones food,
vntill she see whether they be blacke of co-
lor or not.

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